



## SC Department of Employment and Workforce

### NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

### **South Carolina's Employment Situation August 2017**

#### **Unemployment rate inches up in August, employer payrolls hit record level**

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly in August to 4 percent from 3.9 percent in July.

The over-the-month change in the number of individuals working declined by 2,208 to 2,225,610 people. The count of unemployed people grew by 1,460 to 93,067. The state's labor force decreased 748 to 2,318,677 people.

Since August 2016, the labor force has grown by 21,448 people, and employment gains totaled 34,940. The level of unemployed decreased 13,492.

Nationally, the unemployment rate increased from 4.3 percent in July to 4.4 percent in August.

#### **Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup>)**

The August over July seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 6,200 in South Carolina, hitting a record high level of 2,094,900.

- Job gains were recorded in Professional and Business Services (+5,500); Government (+1,700); Other Services (+1,100); Education and Health Services (+1,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+700); Manufacturing (+300); and Information (+300).
- Industries noting losses were Construction (-2,700); Leisure and Hospitality (-1,400); and Financial Activities (-400).

Compared to August 2016, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 35,600.

- Industries with over-the-year gains were Manufacturing (+10,100); Professional and Business Services (+8,800); Education and Health Services (+6,200); Government (+5,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,500); Financial Activities (+800); and Leisure and Hospitality (+500).
- Decreases were reported in the Construction (-400); Information (-400); and Other Services (-300) sectors.

### **Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted<sup>2</sup>)**

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 4,800 from July 2017 to August 2017 for a total of 2,094,300. Historically, employment has experienced growth during the month of August as schools gear up for the semester but growth was concentrated primarily in Professional and Business Services (+4,100).

- Over the month, additional upticks in employment came from Education and Health Services (+2,900); Government (+2,700); and Other Services (+1,600). Manufacturing (+700); Information (+200); Financial Activities (+200); and Mining and Logging (+100) also added jobs during the month. Declines were seen in Construction (-4,500) and Leisure and Hospitality (-3,100), while Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-100) dropped slightly.
- Since August 2016, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 32,900 overall. Annual industrial gains were in Manufacturing (+10,200); Professional and Business Services (+8,300); Education and Health Services (+5,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,400); Government (+3,800); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,400); Financial Activities (+1,000); and Mining and Logging (+200). Decreases occurred in Construction (-700); Other Services (-500); and Information (-200).

<sup>1</sup>**Seasonally Adjusted:** Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year (i.e. tourist-related hiring and school closings in the summer). These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other nonseasonal movements in data over time.

<sup>2</sup>**Not Seasonally Adjusted:** Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

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## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide  
August 2017**

Industry	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	July 2017 to August 2017		August 2016 to August 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>2,094,900</b>	<b>2,088,700</b>	<b>2,059,300</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>0.30%</b>	<b>35,600</b>	<b>1.73%</b>
Construction	95,400	98,100	95,800	-2,700	-2.83%	-400	-0.42%
Manufacturing	248,200	247,900	238,100	300	0.12%	10,100	4.24%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	399,400	398,700	394,900	700	0.18%	4,500	1.14%
Information	26,600	26,300	27,000	300	1.13%	-400	-1.48%
Financial Activities	100,900	101,300	100,100	-400	-0.40%	800	0.80%
Professional and Business Services	277,800	272,300	269,000	5,500	1.98%	8,800	3.27%
Education and Health Services	248,800	247,800	242,600	1,000	0.40%	6,200	2.56%
Leisure and Hospitality	248,700	250,100	248,200	-1,400	-0.56%	500	0.20%
Other Services	74,500	73,400	74,800	1,100	1.48%	-300	-0.40%
Government	370,200	368,500	364,600	1,700	0.46%	5,600	1.54%

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide  
August 2017**

Industry	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	July 2017 to August 2017		August 2016 to August 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>2,094,300</b>	<b>2,089,500</b>	<b>2,061,400</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>0.23%</b>	<b>32,900</b>	<b>1.60%</b>
Mining and Logging	4,400	4,300	4,200	100	2.33%	200	4.76%
Construction	95,500	100,000	96,200	-4,500	-4.50%	-700	-0.73%
Manufacturing	248,100	247,400	237,900	700	0.28%	10,200	4.29%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	400,600	400,700	396,200	-100	-0.02%	4,400	1.11%
Information	26,600	26,400	26,800	200	0.76%	-200	-0.75%
Financial Activities	102,400	102,200	101,400	200	0.20%	1,000	0.99%
Professional and Business Services	277,600	273,500	269,300	4,100	1.50%	8,300	3.08%
Education and Health Services	247,000	244,100	242,000	2,900	1.19%	5,000	2.07%
Leisure and Hospitality	260,400	263,500	259,000	-3,100	-1.18%	1,400	0.54%
Other Services	74,400	72,800	74,900	1,600	2.20%	-500	-0.67%
Government	357,300	354,600	353,500	2,700	0.76%	3,800	1.07%

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

### South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted August 2017

Area	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	July 2017 to August 2017		August 2016 to August 2017	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>2,094,900</b>	<b>2,088,700</b>	<b>2,059,300</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>0.30%</b>	<b>35,600</b>	<b>1.73%</b>
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	354,300	352,300	347,800	2,000	0.56%	6,500	1.87%
Columbia MSA	396,000	401,500	396,300	-5,500	-1.39%	-300	-0.08%
Florence MSA	89,600	89,500	87,900	100	0.11%	1,700	1.93%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	417,300	413,200	410,600	4,100	0.98%	6,700	1.63%
Myrtle Beach MSA	162,000	162,400	160,600	-400	-0.25%	1,400	0.87%
Spartanburg MSA	151,800	151,500	148,000	300	0.20%	3,800	2.57%
Sumter MSA	39,300	39,500	39,100	-200	-0.51%	200	0.51%

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

### South Carolina & Metropolitan Not Seasonally Adjusted August 2017

Area	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	July 2017 to August 2017		August 2016 to August 2017	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>2,094,300</b>	<b>2,089,500</b>	<b>2,061,400</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>0.23%</b>	<b>32,900</b>	<b>1.60%</b>
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	354,200	354,000	347,700	200	0.06%	6,500	1.87%
Columbia MSA	393,800	398,100	393,400	-4,300	-1.08%	400	0.10%
Florence MSA	88,900	88,500	87,500	400	0.45%	1,400	1.60%
Greenville MSA	414,500	409,500	408,700	5,000	1.22%	5,800	1.42%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	79,600	80,300	78,300	-700	-0.87%	1,300	1.66%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	170,800	174,000	168,400	-3,200	-1.84%	2,400	1.43%
Spartanburg MSA	150,400	148,700	147,300	1,700	1.14%	3,100	2.10%
Sumter MSA	38,900	39,200	38,900	-300	-0.77%	0	0.00%

**Note:** Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE**  
**(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

AREA		August 2017				July 2017				August 2016			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
				LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)
Orangeburg County	↑	36,707	33,401	3,306	9.0	35,923	33,485	2,438	6.8	36,725	32,756	3,969	10.8
Fairfield County	↑	10,375	9,456	919	8.9	10,282	9,660	622	6.0	10,195	9,464	731	7.2
Bamberg County	↑	5,445	4,966	479	8.8	5,402	4,982	420	7.8	5,489	4,892	597	10.9
Allendale County	↑	2,742	2,544	198	7.2	2,754	2,562	192	7.0	2,764	2,530	234	8.5
Marion County	↑	12,996	12,066	930	7.2	13,079	12,157	922	7.0	12,891	11,860	1,031	8.0
Marlboro County	↑	9,411	8,746	665	7.1	9,398	8,740	658	7.0	9,337	8,528	809	8.7
Williamsburg County	↑	12,883	12,021	862	6.7	12,875	12,040	835	6.5	12,739	11,790	949	7.4
Chester County	↑	14,030	13,134	896	6.4	13,981	13,120	861	6.2	13,894	12,821	1,073	7.7
Lee County	↑	6,626	6,201	425	6.4	6,682	6,271	411	6.2	6,658	6,167	491	7.4
Barnwell County	↑	8,521	8,005	516	6.1	8,520	8,020	500	5.9	8,461	7,828	633	7.5
Clarendon County	↑	13,211	12,411	800	6.1	13,230	12,492	738	5.6	13,157	12,286	871	6.6
Calhoun County	↑	6,992	6,575	417	6.0	7,068	6,720	348	4.9	7,094	6,599	495	7.0
Sumter County	↑	44,201	41,656	2,545	5.8	44,793	42,384	2,409	5.4	44,305	41,665	2,640	6.0
Union County	↓	11,909	11,213	696	5.8	12,003	11,216	787	6.6	11,682	10,985	697	6.0
Dillon County	↑	13,173	12,419	754	5.7	13,207	12,482	725	5.5	13,113	12,276	837	6.4
Darlington County	↑	30,580	28,863	1,717	5.6	30,746	29,087	1,659	5.4	30,447	28,547	1,900	6.2
Georgetown County	↑	26,258	24,883	1,375	5.2	26,402	25,055	1,347	5.1	26,040	24,442	1,598	6.1
Cherokee County	↓	23,923	22,734	1,189	5.0	24,100	22,683	1,417	5.9	23,523	22,096	1,427	6.1
Lancaster County	↑	38,541	36,636	1,905	4.9	38,414	36,572	1,842	4.8	37,779	35,729	2,050	5.4
Colleton County	↑	17,468	16,634	834	4.8	17,497	16,670	827	4.7	17,216	16,293	923	5.4
Kershaw County	↑	29,315	27,920	1,395	4.8	29,849	28,519	1,330	4.5	29,512	27,933	1,579	5.4
Abbeville County	↓	10,503	10,011	492	4.7	10,481	9,977	504	4.8	10,312	9,729	583	5.7
Florence County	↑	66,539	63,390	3,149	4.7	66,802	63,732	3,070	4.6	65,840	62,387	3,453	5.2
Newberry County	↑	19,614	18,690	924	4.7	19,671	18,870	801	4.1	19,423	18,552	871	4.5
Richland County	↑	201,339	191,974	9,365	4.7	204,485	195,817	8,668	4.2	201,115	191,078	10,037	5.0
Edgefield County	↑	11,027	10,522	505	4.6	11,084	10,602	482	4.3	10,953	10,338	615	5.6
Hampton County	–	8,500	8,113	387	4.6	8,596	8,203	393	4.6	8,532	8,050	482	5.6
Chesterfield County	–	22,494	21,489	1,005	4.5	22,518	21,514	1,004	4.5	22,219	21,080	1,139	5.1
Greenwood County	↓	31,891	30,444	1,447	4.5	31,856	30,381	1,475	4.6	31,331	29,657	1,674	5.3
Horry County	↑	146,575	140,010	6,565	4.5	150,212	143,799	6,413	4.3	145,213	137,924	7,289	5.0
Laurens County	↓	30,679	29,310	1,369	4.5	30,801	29,267	1,534	5.0	30,493	28,897	1,596	5.2
McCormick County	↓	3,469	3,312	157	4.5	3,465	3,307	158	4.6	3,404	3,222	182	5.3
Oconee County	↓	35,255	33,667	1,588	4.5	35,434	33,635	1,799	5.1	34,731	32,941	1,790	5.2
Pickens County	–	57,163	54,676	2,487	4.4	57,039	54,532	2,507	4.4	56,712	53,753	2,959	5.2
Aiken County	↑	76,419	73,158	3,261	4.3	76,618	73,523	3,095	4.0	75,097	71,273	3,824	5.1
Spartanburg County	↓	145,202	138,942	6,260	4.3	146,012	138,969	7,043	4.8	142,978	136,060	6,918	4.8
Anderson County	–	90,406	86,621	3,785	4.2	90,247	86,430	3,817	4.2	89,480	85,211	4,269	4.8
York County	↑	133,006	127,469	5,537	4.2	132,535	127,134	5,401	4.1	130,236	124,053	6,183	4.7
Beaufort County	↑	75,494	72,371	3,123	4.1	76,650	73,593	3,057	4.0	74,802	71,239	3,563	4.8
Saluda County	↑	9,013	8,646	367	4.1	9,248	8,894	354	3.8	9,248	8,836	412	4.5
Berkeley County	↑	97,595	93,723	3,872	4.0	98,340	94,564	3,776	3.8	96,210	91,767	4,443	4.6
Dorchester County	↑	75,906	72,909	2,997	3.9	76,484	73,569	2,915	3.8	74,850	71,427	3,423	4.6
Lexington County	↑	147,657	141,849	5,808	3.9	150,149	144,769	5,380	3.6	147,755	141,602	6,153	4.2
Greenville County	↓	248,437	239,003	9,434	3.8	248,272	238,414	9,858	4.0	245,652	234,955	10,697	4.4
Jasper County	↑	12,434	11,970	464	3.7	12,608	12,155	453	3.6	12,368	11,825	543	4.4
Charleston County	↑	207,511	200,022	7,489	3.6	209,127	201,750	7,377	3.5	204,576	196,078	8,498	4.2
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↑	381,012	366,654	14,358	3.8	383,951	369,883	14,068	3.7	375,636	359,272	16,364	4.4
Columbia MSA	↑	404,691	386,420	18,271	4.5	411,081	394,379	16,702	4.1	404,919	385,512	19,407	4.8
Florence MSA	↑	97,119	92,253	4,866	5.0	97,548	92,819	4,729	4.8	96,287	90,934	5,353	5.6
Greenville -Anderson- Mauldin MSA	↓	426,685	409,610	17,075	4.0	426,359	408,643	17,716	4.2	422,337	402,816	19,521	4.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↑	2,318,677	2,225,610	93,067	4.0	2,319,425	2,227,818	91,607	3.9	2,297,229	2,190,670	106,559	4.6

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up  
↓ Unemployment Rate Down  
– Unemployment Rate =